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Approved For Release 2002/01/25 : CIA-RDP75-00662R000100040087-5
SECURITY INFORMATION

Air

17 April 1952

Mr. Paul Ledet
Deputy for Research
Target Research Branch
AFON
Department of the Air Force
Room 1106, Temporary "U" Bldg.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ledet:

This is in reference to a proposed project "Plant Study of the USSR Iron and Steel Industry" to be undertaken by the Ferrous Metals and Minerals Branch of ORR. Personnel of that Branch have held a consultation with Mr. Gagon, Chief, Metals and Equipment Section, A-2, wherein the work being done by that section on a project under the same subject was thoroughly reviewed and discussed. It was agreed that the objectives of the present A-2 studies are the same as those of CIA only to a limited extent and that independent studies could be undertaken without significant duplication of work and to great mutual advantage.

By way of review, the A-2 studies are mainly concerned with plant locations, dispersal and location of buildings and items of equipment, capacities of the principal steel making facilities, and to some extent history of plant, sources for and inputs of raw materials, type of finished products and plant personnel.

The scope of the proposed CIA project is much broader and would cover many phases of information of an economic nature not included in the A-2 studies which are required to meet the demands placed upon the Ferrous Metals and Minerals Branch for intelligence estimates and reports. It is intended that the CIA project would utilize the work done by A-2 to the fullest extent and that the Ferrous Metals Branch personnel would keep in close touch with the Metals and Equipment Section, A-2 during the course of the project. The scope of the CIA project would include the following:

1. History: In addition to past development, the future expansion or abandonment plans will be studied.
2. Raw Materials: The quality and sources of refractories, ores, fluxes and fuels together with the plant's consumption of each will be studied. Preparation of raw materials such as by sintering and drying will also be studied.

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3. Iron Making Facilities: In addition to the number of furnaces and cupolas and their capacities and production, the type of installation and burdening practices and technological developments in equipment and operations will be studied.
4. Steel Making Facilities: Will cover a detailed study of Siemens-Martins and electric furnaces and Bessemer and Thomas converters, including the charging, decoxidation and other technological practices together with attendant mold strippers and preparations.
5. Rolling Mills: In addition to the primary rolling mills such as the blooming, billet and slabbing mills, it is intended to make a detailed study of the finishing mills such as structural, strip, pipe, tin plates and wire mills including capacities, production and processing methods.
6. Intra Plant Services: This would include details on the power, mechanical and electrical facilities with each plant.
7. Products: This would include the annual or monthly production of each type of finished product and the quality of each.
8. Distribution: Insofar as possible, the destinations of the finished products by type of fabricated product, ministry or plant will be detailed.
9. Personnel: Personnel will be listed and broken down by technical, supervisory and labor categories.
10. Location Characteristics: It is intended to show the climatic conditions which would affect operations.
11. Maintenance: Will cover inputs of equipment parts required for maintenance, also replacement of capital goods.
12. Transportation: Will cover a study of interplant transportation facilities.

Yours very truly,

ROBERT AMORY, JR.
Assistant Director
Research and Reports

RA/JJB/ba

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